

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 EB-08 COME-00

TRSE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AF-10

ARA-14 NEA-10 /096 W

-----079071 111939Z /46

R 110536Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2950

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

UNCLAS CANBERRA 2670

USOECD

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, WFC, AS, US

SUBJ: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - WORLD FOOD COUNCIL: MAURICE

WILLIAMS

REF: STATE 89736

1. EMBOFF PRESENTED TALKING POINTS BASED ON REFTEL TO D. STURKEY, ASSISTANT SECRETARY, ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS BRANCH, DFA.

2. STURKEY SAID THAT DFA HAD HEARD RUMORS OF WILLIAMS' PENDING CANDIDATURE AND WERE GLAD THAT THEY HAD PROVED TRUE. HE SAID THAT AT MANY LEVELS IN DFA THERE WAS MUCH ADMIRATION FOR WILLIAMS' ON ALL COUNTS. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT DFA WOULD HAVE TO SORT OUT AUSTRALIAN POSITION WITH DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRY (DPI) WHICH PRIOR TO FORMAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF WILLIAMS' CANDIDATURE HAD BEEN TENDING TO FAVOR SIR FREDERICK KEARNS (UK). STURKEY SAID THAT DPI UNCLASSIFIED

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WOULD HAVE A TOUGH TIME IN CONVINCING DFA THAT KEARNS' WAS A BETTER CANDIDATE, STURKEY PROMISED TO INFORM EMBASSY AS SOON AS A FORMAL GOA POSITION REACHED, WHICH HE CLEARLY HOPES WILL BE IN FAVOR OF WILLIAMS.

3. STURKEY HINTED THAT HIS CASE MIGHT BE STRENGTHENED IF HE WERE IN A POSITION TO INDICATE TO DPI JUST WHY USG HAD

DECIDED TO MOVE WILLIAMS TO WFC FROM DAC.

4. STURKEY TOLD EMBOFF THAT DFA HAD RECEIVED REPORTS THAT CERTAIN LDC'S (HE DIDN'T ELABORATE ON WHICH COUNTRIES) WERE MUTTERING THAT INASMUCH AS DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WAS A WESTERN EUROPEAN AND THUS A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEVELOPED GROUP, THAT THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHOULD BE FROM AN LDC. IN ADDITION TO SALAHUDDIN AHMED OF BANGLADESH, STURKEY SAID THAT HE HAD HEARD RUMORS THAT AMBASSADOR MILLS OF JAMACA MIGHT BE A CANDIDATE. EMBOFF UNABLE TO COMMENT ON THIS MATTER AND WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S GUIDANCE, ALTHOUGH IT DOES NOT BEAR DIRECTLY ON THE AUSTRALIAN QUESTION OF WILLIAMS VS KEARNS.
ALSTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Subject: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - WORLD FOOD COUNCIL: MAURICE WILLIAMS
TAGS: AORG, AS, US, WFC
To: STATE USOECD
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